

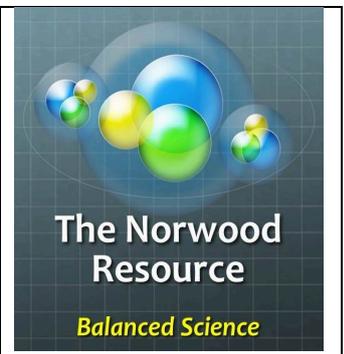
NEWSLETTER

The Norwood Resource *Incorporated*

ABN: 39 286 963 247

Registered ACNC

Issue 5: August 2014



Welcome

Welcome to The Norwood Resource (TNR)'s August Newsletter. In order to incorporate more information into our Newsletters, the general information, such as why we formed and our mission, have been removed. Details on why we formed, together with our mission, can be found at: <http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/about/> Also, our previous newsletters can be accessed at: <http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/newsletters/>

Membership

For potential members more information about becoming a member can be found at:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/become-a-member/>

During July, our membership numbers increased from 75 to 79, consisting of 26 active members and 53 associate/overseas members. The fact that very few new members joined in July is again very disappointing, especially given the number of personnel working in the oil/gas industry.

Even though we get lots of verbal support for what we are doing from a number of individuals and organisation, this support has not, for some reason, been converted into healthy membership numbers.

We've had feedback that some people are reluctant to join TNR because we are seen as a political or lobby group. If the process of challenging/countering misinformation about the industry causes it to "head for the bunkers" whenever poor publicity is encountered, it is little wonder that it is becoming more difficult and expensive to operate. As the then Federal (Labour) Resources Minister, Gary Gray, stated in his address at the 2013 APPEA conference ***"We need to put evidence and science into the current debate – and balance the misinformation that is being peddled in the public arena, and we need to be robust about it."***

The TNR Founding Committee believes that, to be a robust voice in the community, we must have a vibrant membership consisting of individuals from all walks of life. This is why we are so keen to increase our membership numbers. Existing members' assistance in recruiting new members is greatly appreciated.

TNR and the media/public

As per our mission statement, our eventual objectives are "to inform key media" and "establish and maintain a centre of expertise" about the facts and science pertaining to oil/gas exploration/production and the environment. Only by achieving these objectives can we "balance the misinformation peddled in the public arena".

We are, for example, achieving exposure in industry media:

<http://pnronline.com.au/article.aspx?p=1&id=1398>

<http://pnronline.com.au/article.aspx?id=1475&p=1>

However, more community and mainstream media exposure is needed. As mainstream media appear reluctant to "let the facts get in the way of their story", one of our founding committee is ready, willing and has the expertise to give talks to community groups (eg Rotary), school groups, etc on the topic of seismic surveys and marine life. Please call us with any suggestions.

Countering/Challenging misinformation.

During July, here are just a few of the numerous examples of the ongoing barrage of misinformation aimed at our industry and why the industry needs to be robust in countering this misinformation:

*Ongoing articles in New Zealand, in which so-called "scientific experts" were making non-scientific claims about the potential impacts of marine seismic surveys on whales & dolphins. EG.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/northern-advocate/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503450&objectid=11287562

Unfortunately, when these claims are repeated often enough and loudly enough, many start believing them despite no tangible evidence of adverse impacts in over 4 decades.

*Media articles in Australia in which the fishing industry is claiming impacts from seismic surveys despite there being no evidence to support their claims. Firstly, one in NSW:

<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/2425676/hunt-for-gas-fosters-fear-for-ocean-life/?cs=303>

Also, the ongoing claims by the scallop fishing industry, this time suggesting that the seismic industry put up financial bonds before conducting seismic surveys (to compensate for future damage!?):

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/2395113/call-to-pay-bonds-on-seismic-exploration/?cs=12>

These claims ignored the study conducted by the Tasmanian Aquaculture & Fisheries Institute (TAFI) that there was "....no short-term (< 2 months) impacts on the survival or health of adult commercial scallops (*Pecten fumatus*) were detected post the seismic survey.". At least the Advocate did follow up quickly with an article mentioning this when it was brought to their attention:

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/2397778/2010-report-found-no-impact-on-scallops/>

*Although published in June, the following post by IFAW is worth highlighting as it not only misinforms, it contradicts itself:

<http://www.ifaw.org/australia/news/not-good-time-be-whale-oceania-region> How can (humpback) whales in Australia be at risk from petroleum exploration and development and yet be "going gangbusters"?

These examples demonstrate that the oil/gas industry needs to take notice and counter the misinformation that is in the public arena in order to maintain its "social licence to operate".

Published during July

Two articles were published during July, one highlighting the impacts of the carbon tax and RETs on electricity prices:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/2014/07/25/perverse-outcomes-of-green-subsidies-for-renewable-electricity-generation-in-australia/>

The other exposed examples of misinformation being spread about offshore seismic surveys by protestors/lobbyists:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/2014/07/30/the-right-to-protest-or-lobby-should-not-be-abused/>

In addition, a parallel article "lifting the lid" on misinformation contained in onshore campaigns was also published on 2nd August:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/2014/08/02/do-protestors-tell-the-truth-and-are-their-protests-based-on-facts/>

Website: www.thenorwoodresource.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheNorwoodResource

Twitter: [@NorwoodRes](https://twitter.com/NorwoodRes)

Email: info@thenorwoodresource.org.au

Mail: PO Box 235, HIGHGATE, SA 5063

Tel: +61 417 357 508 or +61 428 786 781